

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub
Aa

- 5
1. A system for creating persistent references to data sources comprising:
a small footprint device, wherein said small footprint device includes a processing
unit and system memory;
a software framework stored in said system memory, wherein said software
framework supports program modules, wherein said program modules implement
computing services;
a first computing service implemented by one or more of said program modules,
10 wherein said first computing service is operable to create a persistent reference to a data
source in response to a user selecting said data source.
a second computing service implemented by one or more of said program
modules, wherein said second computing service is operable to access said data source
using said persistent reference.
15
2. The system of claim 1, further comprising an activation framework
operable to create an entity encapsulating said data source; wherein said persistent
reference created by first computing service references said entity encapsulating said data
source.
20
3. The system of claim 2, wherein said activation framework is further
operable to invoke said second computing service to perform an operation on said data
source.
- 25
4. The system of claim 3, wherein said activation framework is the
JavaBeans Activation Framework.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein said software framework requires less than
300 kilobytes of memory.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the small footprint device is a small footprint device from the group consisting of: personal data assistant (PDA), cellular phone, and global positioning system (GPS) receiver.

5

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the small footprint device is a small footprint device from the group consisting of: game console, wearable computing device, set-top box, and electronic book device.

10

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the small footprint device comprises less than 2 megabytes of memory.

15

9. The system of claim 1, wherein said small footprint device comprises a display screen smaller than twenty square inches.

20

10. The system of claim 1, wherein said small footprint device is exclusively battery operated.

09333421-061599